

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00
DODE-00 EA-10 EUR-12 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
DOE-15 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 ICA-11 NRC-05 EPA-01
/165 W

-----054341 180846Z /11

P 180817Z APR 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8501

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 05765

USUN NEW YORK FOR AMBASSADOR FISHER

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION MOSCOW USUN NY HW RPTED
TO YOU

E.O.11652:GDS

TAGS: PARM US UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR CHEMICAL WEAPONS NEGOTIATIONS: JOINT
US-USSR STATEMENT TO CCD

CW MESSAGE NO.43

REF: GENEVA 4842

1. PURSUANT TO AN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN AMB FISHER AND
SOVIET REP AMB LIKHATCHEV (REFTTEL), US AND SOVIET DELE-
GATIONS HAVE AGREED, AD REFERENDUM TO THE CAPITALS, ON
THE TEXT OF A JOINT US-USSR STATEMENT TO BE MADE IN CCD
ON THE STATUS OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS NEGOTIATIONS. EXCEPT
FOR A FEW MODIFICATIONS NEGOTIATED OUT BETWEEN LIKHATCHEV
AND AKALOVSKY (ACTING HEAD OF US DEL), THE AD REFERENDUM
TEXT REPRESENTS THE TEXT PREPARED BY US DEL IN RESPONSE
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TO A LARGELY UNACCEPTABLE SOVIET DRAFT.

2. THE AD REFERENDUM TEXT READS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:
JOINT US-SOVIET STATEMENT TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT.

IN ITS RESOLUTION 32/77 OF DECEMBER 12, 1977, ON THE

PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS, THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY STRESSED THE NEED FOR EARLY SUBMISSION OF A JOINT INITIATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT IN ORDER TO ASSIST IT IN ACHIEVING EARLY AGREEMENT ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, AND STOCKPILING OF ALL CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION. THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION RECOGNIZE THAT THIS RESOLUTION REFLECTS THE DESIRE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO ACHIEVE SUCH AN AGREEMENT AND THAT THIS TASK IS A HIGH PRIORITY ITEM OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT.

ALONG WITH THE WORK ON THIS PROBLEM IN THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT, THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION HAVE CONDUCTED SINCE AUGUST 1976 BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH A VIEW TO DEVELOPING A JOINT INITIATIVE ON THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND INTRODUCING IT IN THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT. ON JANUARY 10, 1978 ANOTHER, SEVENTH ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS BEGAN IN GENEVA, WHICH STILL CONTINUES. THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED INTENSIVELY. THE DELEGATIONS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE HELD A LARGE NUMBER OF PLENARY AND DRAFTING GROUP MEETINGS.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION BELIEVE THAT THE FUTURE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS
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SHOULD MEET THE OBJECTIVE OF COMPLETE AND EFFECTIVE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS, AS WELL AS THE DESTRUCTION OF STOCKPILES OF SUCH WEAPONS. IN THE COURSE OF THEIR NEGOTIATIONS, BOTH SIDES HAVE DISCUSSED EXTENSIVELY ALL THE MAJOR ISSUES RELATED TO THIS OBJECTIVE.

ONE AREA WHERE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IS THAT OF THE SCOPE OF THE PROHIBITION. AS A RESULT OF ACCOMMODATION BY BOTH SIDES, AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE HAS NOW EMERGED ON MOST, ALTHOUGH NOT ALL, POINTS IN THIS AREA. BOTH SIDES SHARE THE OPINION OF THE MAJORITY OF CCD MEMBERS THAT THE PRINCIPAL CRITERION IN DETERMINING THE SCOPE OF THE PROHIBITION SHOULD BE THE GENERAL PURPOSE CRITERION. THEY HAVE ALSO REACHED THE VIEW THAT FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPLYING A DIFFERENTIATED APPROACH TO THE PROHIBITION, AS WELL AS OF FACILITATING VERIFICATION, IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO USE, IN ADDITION TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE CRITERION, TWO TOXICITY CRITERIA AND CERTAIN OTHER PROVISIONS.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION ARE IN AGREEMENT

THAT THE CONVENTION SHOULD CONTAIN PROVISIONS CLEARLY SPECIFYING THE PROCEDURE FOR DECLARING CHEMICAL WEAPONS STOCKPILES. THE SPECIFICS OF SUCH A PROCEDURE ARE STILL UNDER DISCUSSION, AND SOME OF THEM HAVE ALREADY BEEN AGREED UPON. WHILE BOTH SIDES AGREE THAT STATES PARTIES TO THE FUTURE CONVENTION SHOULD ALSO DECLARE THEIR PRODUCTION BASE FOR CHEMICALS COVERED BY THE CONVENTION, THE ACTUAL CONTENT OF SUCH DECLARATIONS IS UNDER CONTINUED NEGOTIATION. MEASURES RELATING TO THE DISPOSITION OF THAT BASE IS ALSO A MATTER REQUIRING FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION BELIEVE THAT THE FULFILLMENT OF THE OBLIGATIONS ASSUMED UNDER THE FUTURE CONVENTION SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO ADEQUATE VERIFICATION.
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THEY SHARE THE VIEW THAT THE SYSTEM FOR SUCH VERIFICATION

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00
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DOE-15 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 ICA-11 NRC-05 EPA-01
/165 W

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P 180817Z APR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8502

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 GENEVA 05765

USUN NEW YORK FOR AMBASSADOR FISHER

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION MOSCOW USUN NY 4/17 HW RPTD TO YOU

SHOULD BE BASED ON A COMBINATION OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING THE CREATION OF A CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE. A NUMBER OF ARRANGEMENTS AND

PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON IN THIS AREA. NO AGREEMENT HAS YET BEEN REACHED, HOWEVER, ON CERTAIN ISSUES, INCLUDING ON SPECIFIC METHODS OF VERIFYING THE DESTRUCTION OF CHEMICAL WEAPON STOCKS AND OF THE DISPOSITION OF THE PRODUCTION BASE FOR CHEMICALS COVERED BY THE CONVENTION.

THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT IS AWARE OF THE COMPLEXITY OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING A DISARMAMENT MEASURE WHICH IS DESIGNED TO ELIMINATE AN ENTIRE CLASS OF WEAPONS FROM THE ARSENALS OF STATES AND WHICH ALSO AFFECTS ONE OF THE MAJOR INDUSTRIES IN MANY COUNTRIES. IT WILL ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO DESCRIBE IN GREATER DETAIL THE PROBLEMS REMAINING AT THIS STAGE COULD COMPLICATE BILATERAL EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THEM.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION ARE AWARE OF THE
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GREAT IMPORTANCE THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT ATTACH TO THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE CONCLUSION OF A CONVENTION AND WILL CONTINUE THEIR BEST EFFORTS TO COMPLETE THE BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS IMPORTANT AND EXTREMELY COMPLEX PROBLEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. END TEXT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST WASHINGTON VIEWS ON THE FOREGOING TEXT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: CHEMICAL WARFARE WEAPONS, NEGOTIATIONS, PROGRESS REPORTS
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Draft Date: 18 apr 1978
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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